

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00  
OMB-01 /105 W  
-----093309 041105Z /10

R 041023Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9634  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY SUVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MANILA 13473

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ELAB, RP, UR  
SUBJECT: THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO RP WOOS TUCP

REF: MANILA 13466

1. SUMMARY: THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE RP HAS OFFERED  
10 THIRTY-DAY ALL-EXPENSES-PAID GRANTS TO THE TUCP FOR ITS  
OFFICERS TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER.  
THE SOVIET OFFER HAS STIMULATED A CONTROVERSY WITHIN THE  
TUCP AS TO WHETHER OR NOT IT SHOULD BE ACCEPTED. THE  
OFFER HITS AT A SORE POINT AMONG THE TUCP BOARD MEMBERS  
WHO FEEL THE TOP OFFICERS HAVE USED ICFTU GRANTS FOR  
THEMSELVES AND TO THE EXCLUSION OF THE LESSER MEMBERS.  
A FINAL TUCP DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN TAKEN. THIS  
SOVIET PLOY MAY BE PART OF A PLAN TO WEAKEN THE TUCP AND  
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STRENGTHEN A NEW CENTRAL LABOR BODY, THE UNITED LABOR  
FRONT, HEADED BY BONIFACIO TUPAZ, WHOSE FEDERATION,  
TUPAS, RECENTLY AFFILIATED WITH THE WFTU. END SUMMARY.

2. ERNESTO "BOY" HERRERA, TUCP DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, HAS  
TOLD LABATT THAT THE SOVIET UNION'S AMBASSADOR TO THE  
PHILIPPINES TOOK TUCP PRESIDENT KITO MENDOZA TO LUNCH

RECENTLY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. THE AMBASSADOR OFFERED THE TUCP TEN GRANTS FOR TUCP OFFICERS FOR 30 DAY ALL-EXPENSES-PAID VISITS TO THE SOVIET UNION IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER. MENDOZA INSTRUCTED HERRERA TO PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE TUCP EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING JULY 28. HERRERA'S REPORT INFORMED THE BOARD THAT THE INVITATION HAD NO PURPOSE BUT A TOURIST VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION AND POINTED UP THE TUCP RELATIONS WITH ICFTU, AAFLI AND FREDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG AS BEING REASONS WHY TUCP SHOULD REJECT THE SOVIET'S OFFER. HERRERA ALSO REMINDED THE BOARD THAT THE TUCP WAS COMMITTED TO A POLICY OF FREE TRADE UNIONISM WHILE THE SOVIETS WERE NOT FOSTERING FREE TRADE UNIONS. HERRERA WAS CALLED A CIA AGENT BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE BOARD WHO OBVIOUSLY WANT TO ACCEPT SUCH A GRANT. THE BOARD HAS APPOINTED A COMMITTEE TO RECONSIDER THE PROPOSAL, HEADED BY ANDRES DINGLASSEN, PRESIDENT OF THE PORT TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS ORGANIZATION (PTGWO), AND HAS REFUSED TO INCLUDE HERRERA AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE HE WAS CONSIDERED TO BE BIASED. LAST YEAR THE SOVIETS OFFERED ONE GRANT TO THE TUCP. IT WAS EASY TO COPE WITH ONE GRANT BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN A WFTU AFFILIATE IN THE TUCP FROM ITS INCEPTION AND THAT UNION COULD LOGICALLY ACCEPT WITHOUT SERIOUSLY COMPROMISING THE TUCP WITH THE ICFTU OR AAFLI. BUT WITH 10 GRANTS IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR THE TUCP TO ASSIGN THE GRANTS IF INDEED THE TUCP FINALLY ACCEPTS THE CONFIDENTIAL

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OFFER. IF THEY REJECT THE OFFER, THEN THERE WILL LIKELY BE MANY AFFILIATES WHICH COULD BECOME DISENCHANTE WITH THE TUCP.

3. COMMENT: THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR APPEARS TO ASSIGN CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE TO THE VALUE OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN THE PHILIPPINES SINCE HE INVOLVED HIMSELF PERSONALLY IN THIS MATTER INSTEAD OF LEAVING IT TO HIS LABOR ATTACHE HERMAN D. SHEVCHENKO. THE ISSUE OF FOREIGN TRAVEL FOR TUCP OFFICIALS HAS BEEN A SORE POINT WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION -- E.G., IN THE PAST THE LATE BERT OCA AND KITO MENDOZA HAVE BEEN THE ONLY TUCP OFFICIALS TO ATTEND ICFTU MEETINGS; OTHER OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN LEFT OUT. THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS THAT PROMPTED BONIFACIO TUPAZ TO DISAFFILIATE WITH THE TUCP AND AFFILIATE WITH THE WFTU (SEE REFTEL). PRESUMABLY THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IS AWARE OF THIS SITUATION, IS SEEKING TO EXPLOIT IT, WITH A VIEW TO CONTRIBUTING TO DIVISIONS WITH THE TUCP AND ENHANCING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPETING CENTRAL LABOR ORGANIZATION.

4. BONIFACIO TUPAZ, WHOSE FEDERATION IS AFFILIATED WITH THE WFTU, IS KNOWN TO BE TRYING TO CREATE A NEW CENTRAL

LABOR BODY. JOHNNIE TAN, PRESIDENT OF THE FFW, ADMITS THAT TUPAZ TRIED TO PERSUADE HIM TO HEAD UP THE NEW ORGANIZATION. TAN SAYS THAT HE REFUSED THE OFFER BUT ADMITS THAT RAMON JABOR, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF FFW, IS A MEMBER OF TUPAZ' NEW UNITED LABOR FRONT (ULF). TAN CLAIMS THAT JABOR IS ACTING AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND NOT AS AN OFFICER OF THE FFW. TUPAZ, HOWEVER, IS EXPLOITING JABOR'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE ULF AS BEING AN ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION AND FEW PEOPLE BELIEVE OTHERWISE. TAN ALSO ADMITTED TO LABATT THAT SOMEONE FROM THE FFW PRINTERS UNION WOULD ATTEND THE WFTU PRINTERS ITS CONVENTION IN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MANILA 13473

TASHKENT LATER THIS YEAR AS THE ALL-EXPENSES-PAID GUEST OF THE WFTU.

5. THE EFFORT OF THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO WOO THE TUCP MAY BE VIEWED AS AN EFFORT TO OBLIGE THE TUCP TO BE MORE RECEPTIVE TO THE SOLIDARITY OF THE WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNDER SOME FORM OF MERGED WFTU, ICFTU AND THE WCL, WITH THE AFL-CIO OFF BY ITSELF. MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** INVITATIONS, VISITS, LABOR UNIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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